



Hon. Doris O. Matsui

Member of Congress

Doris O. Matsui

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Congresswoman Doris Matsui Announces Critical Funding in the Water Resources Development Act

Washington, D.C. – Late last night, Rep. Doris Matsui (CA-5) announced that the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) has passed through both houses of Congress and is on its way to the President to be signed into law. Under WRDA, the Folsom Dam Joint Federal Project (JFP) is authorized to receive \$683 million.

The JFP is designated for completion in 2015 and will provide the Sacramento region with up to 240 years of flood protection. A joint project to be undertaken by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers, the innovative project will build a spillway adjacent to Folsom Dam. The entire project will come with a price tag of \$1.2 billion, which will be a combination of federal, state and local funds.

“As we near the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, we are reminded that we must be ever-vigilant in our efforts to increase our flood protection. The authorization of WRDA and the Folsom Dam JFP mark a significant step in securing our region for generations to come,” said Matsui.

Overall, WRDA authorizes approximately 400 new projects for the Army Corps of Engineers, including projects for flood control. In the wake of some of the problems highlighted by Hurricane Katrina, WRDA 2007 also includes important provisions to improve the Corps planning and mitigation process. The Corps will be directed to undertake an Independent Peer Review when cost thresholds are met, and ensure that projects are not undertaken at the expense of the environment.

“The JFP is a pioneering venture that combines the resources and ingenuity of federal and local agencies. By working together, we have paved the way for a project that will provide more flood protection than any single entity could have done alone. This accomplishment is a shining example of how our community can benefit when there is collaboration and communication every step along the way,” said Matsui.

“This important legislation will bolster our nation’s infrastructure, a task that can’t happen too soon. In the wake of last night’s bridge collapse in Minnesota, I sincerely hope that the President will waste no time signing the Water Resources Development Act into law. In Congress, we have done our part to improve our nation’s flood protection and keep our citizens safe,” said Matsui.

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